WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

# WEST ST. PAUL

2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2016



### **FUTURE READY?**

Check out the City Council's five priority areas and the progress that was made in the last year.

Page 4

### **CURB APPEAL**

Property that is not kept up negatively impacts property values. See how West St. Paul is addressing the issue.

Page 7

### **ELECTIONS**

Election season is coming up. Do you know where and when you're voting?

Page 12

### INFLOW & INFILTRATION

Significant improvements have been made. Do you know what they are?

Page 15

### WE'RE JUST A CLICK OR CALL AWAY!

### **CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL**

Municipal Center 1616 Humboldt Avenue West Saint Paul, MN 55118

Office Hours M-F, 8:00AM-4:30PM

Main Line 651-552-4100 Main Fax 651-552-4190

www.wspmn.gov

### MAYOR:

• Dave Meisinger 612-366-1361 dmeisinger@wspmn.gov

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

- Ward I | Patrick Armon 651-587-6056 parmon@wspmn.gov
- Ward I | Dick Vitelli 651-460-0419 dvitelli@wspmn.gov
- Ward II | Jenny Halverson 651-321-3977 ihalverson@wspmn.gov
- Ward II | Ed Iago 651-731-4447 eiago@wspmn.gov
- Ward III | David Napier 612-562-9773 dnapier@wspmn.gov
- Ward III | John Bellows 651-238-4444 jbellows@wspmn.gov

### CITY MANAGER:

Matt Fulton 651-552-4101 mfulton@wspmn.gov

### WWW.WSPMN.GOV

### **DEPARTMENTS & HOTLINES**

Emergency Police/Fire 911

Non-Emerg Police/Fire/Animal Control 651-322-2323

Fire Dept Admin/Recreational Fires 651-552-4176

Police Admin/Records 651-552-4200

Assessments 651-552-4124

Elections 651-552-4102

Finance Dept 651-552-4100

Human Resources 651-552-4108

Licensing 651-552-4203

Golf Course (seasonal) 651-457-6064

Ice Arena (seasonal) 651-552-4155

Parks & Recreation/Diseased Trees 651-552-4150

Sports Dome/WSPRAC 651-552-4158

Swimming Pool (seasonal) 651-552-9650

Thompson Park Activity Ctr (seniors) 651-403-8300

Sewer Back-ups 651-552-4161

Street Maint/Blvd Tree Trimming 651-552-4160

Bldg/Plmb/Mech Permits & Insp 651-552-4116

Elect Insp (call from 7:30-8am) 612-866-1979

Code Enforcement/Property Complaints 651-552-4114 codeenforcement@wspmn.gov

Economic Development 651-552-4140

Rental Licensing/Recycling/Rubbish 651-552-4144

Zoning 651-552-4134







## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Tello from the Mayor's desk. I hope you all are having an enjoyable spring. It has certainly not been boring weather-wise. Hopefully Mother Nature has gotten that all out of her system and we will have a warm sunny summer to get out

This summer we will start to see the full benefits of the Harmon Park rebuild, now that the entire park is usable, including all the ball fields! We have had the water feature open already this year and the community building has been in use since last fall when it was completed. The golf course has seen the benefit of the wet spring and we encourage you to get out and play a round or two, just in case this happens as you can! to be the last year that it's open.

With that in mind, staff and I recently met with some local developers to share our thoughts on the golf course and to get their ideas on how we can maximize and better use that area. Keep in mind that West St. Paul is 100% developed and the only way we can continue to serve you, the residents, is to re-develop what we have in order to attract new us some breathing room to slow the residents and new businesses.

Redevelopment interest continues along the Robert Street corridor as well. We have had discussions with developers for commercial, residential and mixed use projects from the north end of town to the south end. Council and staff continue to vet these proposals with the hope of bringing them forward to reality this year. With that interest and word of mouth of what West St. Paul has to offer, we hope to have more proposals come our way, particularly now that the end of the Robert St. project is in sight.

The Robert St. project continues to grab a good chunk of the time and effort from staff and the Council. As we deal with detour traffic issues, trying to market continue to examine just how we are going to cover the project cost as well their road, the Council continues to question these increasing costs and has not stopped holding our consultant and staff accountable for transparency and accuracy in the expenditure of our tax and two new Community Service

Even though it may take a little bit long and safe careers for all of them longer to get there, please keep in mind that all businesses on Robert Street are open for business and are ready to serve

we have spent additional time trying to find an updated and more equitable As always, please feel free to contact and efficient way to deal with the I/I wastewater issue. The Council and staff recently worked out a deal with the Met Council to extend the or not happening around West St. Paul. completion date to 'fix' our problems out a few more years. This has allowed

the corridor to maintain our customer inspection/repair process down to a base and sales for our businesses, we more manageable and cost effective pace. Though it is not a perfect plan, it's the most effective and, by the time as the increasing change order costs, you read this, the council should have without overburdening the tax payers. approved the ordinance revisions for In light of the Council's continued this program. This is definitely a work and enjoy all that West St. Paul has to efforts to get the state to pay more for in progress and rest assured that the council will continue to 'tweak' the program as needed!

On a lighter note, I would like to welcome our two new Police Officers Officers (CSO). We look forward to while they serve our community and work to keep us safe.

As you can see, the Council and staff you. So please patronize them as often continue to work hard to keep making improvements and give you the best When not dealing with Robert Street, service we can in exchange for your tax

> me, your Council representative or city staff with any questions or comments you may have about things happening

> > -Mayor Meisinger



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## **FUTURE READY?**

hat concise phrase is becoming a common place theme of communities around the State, Country and in fact, world. As our community evolves and responds to the ever changing economic, demographic, and environmental influences, it is an appropriate question. Is West St Paul becoming *Future Ready?* The intent of this article is to provide a dashboard review of the issues, projects, and influences that have had an impact on the community in 2015 and to provide some graphical trendlines to indicate progress toward being *Future Ready*.

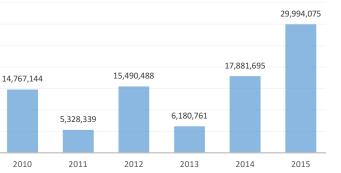
The City Council focuses on five priority areas in its strategic approach of moving the community forward.



### ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY VITALITY

As Robert Street continues to be reconstructed, the Cunningham Group has been undertaking a significant study to update design standards that will help guide future private redevelopment along the commercial corridor in a way that strengthens the overall vitality and property tax base for the community.

### **Commercial Permit Value by Year**



- With the reconstruction of Robert Street and the strengthening economy, there has been a significant increase in expressed interest by developers. There are no fewer than 6 areas along Robert Street currently being focused on for future redevelopment projects.
- The City Council has committed to keeping Thompson Oaks Golf Course open for 2016 and is exploring opportunities that would repurpose the 50 golf course in future years 45
  - golf course in future years 45 for increased public park 40 usage, new residential 35 development, and other 25 activities that would 20 significantly strengthen the City's property tax base.
- A planning effort for considering the future of the Dodd/Smith Commercial area will be getting underway soon.
- A new annual community event was established in West St Paul called Art on the Avenue. This event, held in the Dodd/Smith area invites local and area artists to display their art and also includes fun activities for kids and their families.
- Great reviews are coming in for the recently renovated Harmon Park, which is now a youth focused activity area, including a splashpad,

playground, five baseball fields, a hockey and pleasure rink, and a new Neighborhood Center that is intended for private, public, and community use.

### 2 SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY

The West St Paul Police Department is recognized for its excellent service to the community, and is acknowledged

as one of the busiest in Dakota County.

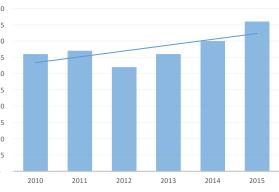
• The Police

Department sponsored and held its annual 10-week Citizens' Academy to share with the public the responsibilities, challenges, and rewards faced by the Police Department.

One

of the Police Department's major community engagement events is Night to Unite. In 2015, over 45 neighborhood parties took place and were visited by Police, Fire, City Council, and City management team representatives.

### **Night to Unite Block Parties**



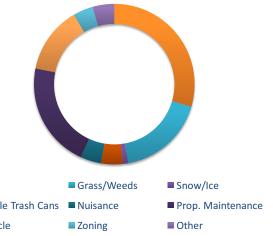
- The Police Department recognizes the changing nature of how best to communicate with the public and expanded its efforts significantly into using social media.
- Accountability, transparency, and time are mission critical to the Police Department. The increasing use of technology in Police vehicles and for investigative purposes are becoming an essential element of Police Services.
  - The Department maintains a rigorous

training focus to ensure 24 hour readiness for any events or incidents that arise.

### 3 CONNECTED & THRIVING NEIGHBORHOODS

- The City Council and Management team completed a series of four Neighborhood Meetings to engage in a conversation with residents about important community and neighborhood topics and direction.
- The rental community is a significant and important component of the City's overall residential housing mix. The City Council recognizes the importance of all rental facilities being

#### 2015 Code Enforcement Cases - 1638 total cases



operated and managed responsibly and has comprehensively strengthened rental ordinances to help ensure this expectation.

 Clean and well-kept properties are an essential part of a safe and vibrant neighborhood and City staff have an extremely busy schedule responding, and resolving, over 1,600 code related cases during the past year.

### 4 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

- Robert Street is the most comprehensive and expensive public works project ever taken on by the community. The project will be substantially completed by the end of 2016 and will create a new and exciting commercial corridor to serve and support the community and region into the future.
- Marie Street was another significant public infrastructure project completed in 2015. This east-west corridor also significantly improves

pedestrian and bike access on and off the street. The final short stretch of Marie will be completed as part of the Robert Street project.

- West St. Paul is working collaboratively with all other Dakota County communities to develop a County-wide fiber optic broadband system. This system would allow all public jurisdictions to share the infrastructure in the delivery of technology based public services. It would also serve as the backbone for allowing businesses to connect for commercial use in the future.
- The City is currently undertaking an effort to eliminate inflow and infiltration (I/I) from public and private sanitary sewer lines throughout the community. I/I is clear water that gets into the sanitary sewer system through cracks/breaks and foundation drain/ roof connections. This multi-year program is being required by the Metropolitan Council, which treats the City's sanitary sewer waste and has a program that charges metro communities for excessive I/I.
- The Emerald Ash Borer was recently identified in West St. Paul. Fortunately, a mitigation plan including treatment was established in 2015 to guide the City's action in managing/eliminating this very impactful bug. This plan will be implemented over the next decade and unfortunately, will have a significant cost associated with it.

### INNOVATIVE AND **GOVERNANCE EXCELLENCE**

- West St Paul has an excellent volunteer program. In 2015, 1,948 volunteer hours were provided to the community.
- Technology continues to be a mainstay in helping to keep the community current and efficient. During the last year, great efficiencies were gained by the introduction of Neogov, a human resources software. In addition, OpenGov was implemented to assist residents to maintain a live understanding of the City's budget and financing through the City's website.

Finally, Community Development has selected a new software, that when rolled out in early 2017, will allow great efficiency in permitting, building inspections and licensing, and will the City move towards being a 24 organization by allowing residents to conduct business online.

Once again, the City has received positive feedback from the community regarding the professional newsletter distributed to all residential homes in the

#### community. In addition, special editions relating to Robert Street and

■ No opinion

■ Very good
■ Average

Excellent

"WE VIEW THE CITY'S MANAGEMENT

FINANCIAL PRACTICES ARE STRONG.

- STANDARD AND POOR'S

**PRACTICES** 

WELL EMBEDDED,

SUSTAINABLE."

**Quality of Life in West St Paul** 

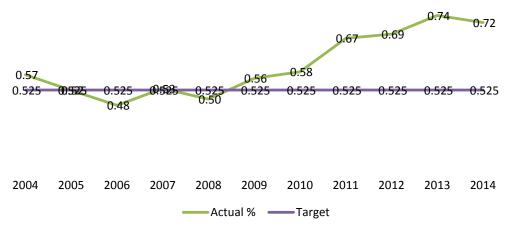
marketing downtown commercia1 businesses generated and distributed to a multi-city audience.

The City has entered the social media arena with intentional effort communicate effectively, more

consistently, and informatively. Steady ground has been gained as more and more followers are connected to the City's social media outlets.

- The City's general fund balance is very strong and has grown over the past several years as a result of strong financial management, solid budgeting, and departments conscientious practice, with spending resources.
- The City's Bond rating is sustained at AA, one of the top ratings achievable. This excellent rating results in lower interest costs when the City issues debt.





## MAINTAINING THE CITY'S QUALITIES



about properties that are not kept up. yards not only make a big difference All properties need to continually be to your neighbors, but also to potential in compliance with these ordinances. The Code Enforcement staff responds to complaints and proactively locates property compliance issues.

Property that is not kept up negatively affects property values and neighborhood and City desirability. In

he City of West St. Paul has our community and have a high quality junk, long grass, out of control weeds developers. New businesses looking For questions or concerns, please to open or relocate to a City look at surrounding residential areas to help them decide where they want to be codeenforcement@wspmn.gov. located. Individual cities compete for these businesses. Most developers and For violations of street parking, please businesses do not want to be located contact the Police non-emergency where properties are run-down, in number at 651-322-2323 West St. Paul, we want to be proud of disrepair, or where yards have trash,

ordinances in place to help of life. Having well-maintained houses, and/or inoperable vehicles parked on address common complaints apartment buildings, businesses and the property. Please help our City look

> contact the Code Enforcement Hotline at 651-552-4114 or email at

### THE INSPECTION PROCESS

If a violation is found, the inspector will notify the owner who then has the opportunity to correct the violation(s) by a compliance date, after which a re-inspection will be performed. If the violation is not corrected and other arrangements have not been made, the City will abate the violation or issue an Administrative Citation.

- 1. Please Don't Panic. A Compliance Letter is a list of items that need to be corrected. Receiving a Compliance Letter is not the end of the world; it merely means your property needs some attention. A compliance date is the date by which you need to have the items remedied or by which you must make other arrangements with the City.
- 2. Don't Ignore it. Ignoring a compliance letter will not make the violation(s) go away. Citations and property abatement are the City's method of last resort. The City of West St. Paul wants to work with residents to resolve their maintenance issues.

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### Do You Know How to Save a Life?

### The South Metro Fire Department Wants to Teach You!

Approximately 325,000 Americans suffer from sudden cardiac arrest every year. Unfortunately, only about 10% of those that suffer from sudden cardiac arrest will survive. That is a very sad statistic.

What can you do to help? The two most to perform life saving measures without important things a bystander can do is to having to do the traditional mouth-to call 911 and push hard and fast on the center of the person's chest. The South Metro Fire Department's Heart Restart program will teach you the skills to act in this emergency

medical situation. South Metro's Heart Restart classes teach 'Compression Only' CPR. Compression only CPR teaches the layperson the correct way to do chest compressions. This allows the person mouth technique until Emergency Medical Services arrive. It is a non-certification class that takes about an hour to complete. Students will practice on mannequins

and also learn how to use an Automated External Defibrillator or AED. Classes can be held at either of South Metro's fire stations, or can be taught at your church, school, business or home in West St. Paul or South St. Paul.

For more info, or to schedule a group of five or more people,

call 651-552-4175 or email heartrestart@southmetrofire.com

#### South Metro Fire Department









### Citizens' Academies

Learn first

### Fire

PARTICIPATE IN SOUTH METRO FIRE DEPARTMENT'S CITIZENS' FIRE ACADEMY

The South Metro Fire Department, along with the Inver-Grove Heights Fire Department, will be offering the Citizens' Fire Academy. Participants will learn what it takes to become a firefighter through classroom and hands-on training. They will get a taste of fire department life and learn life safety skills to help in the protection of their families and their community.

Classes run from September 7 - October 26, Wednesdays from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.

The academy consists of approximately eight weekly sessions. Each week, participants will learn about a different facet of the services provided by the two departments. the uniform Topics include day-to-day operations, fire safety and prevention, Emergency Medical Services, special rescue and others that are important to public safety. Each three hour session will include both classroom and hands -on learning taught by South Metro and Inver Grove Heights firefighters.

The SMFD/IGHFD Citizens Fire Academy is open on an application/selection basis to people age 18 or older who live or work in the cities of West St. Paul, South St. Paul or Inver Grove Heights. Class size is limited.

For more information email Tim Congdon at tcongdon@southmetrofire.com.

### **Police**

BEHIND THE BADGE: HONOR - INTEGRITY - COURAGE

This fall will be the 9th year for the West St. Paul/ Mendota Heights Citizens Police Academy. Residents and business owners are encouraged to register for this exciting 10-week program.

Classes run from September 15 - November 17, Thursday nights from 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm.

The Citizens Police Academy is designed to give citizens a working knowledge of the operations and responsibilities of the police departments that serve our communities. Students will get hands on instruction from officers in hand how the the areas of criminal investigations, traffic people behind stops, use of force, firearms and DWI sobriety testing. There are also field trips keep us safe. to our training facilities and the Dakota County Jail.

> Getting to know and understand situations that police officers face on a daily basis will give students a better understanding of actually being "BEHIND THE BADGE".

This course is meant to challenge your view of police and our hope is that residents and business owners will want to get more involved in their communities.

Sign up for the Citizen Police Academy at www.wspmn.gov or contact Laura Vaughan at 651-552-4235 or by email at lyaughan@wspmn.gov

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### **AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2016**

Night to Unite is an effective and fun way for neighbors to connect with each other and learn new ways to make our community a safer place to live. The West St. Paul Police Department will be out and about on August 2nd to talk to residents about effective crime prevention strategies. Alongside your local law enforcement, South Metro Fire, City Council Members and members of the City's management team will also be out on August 2nd to discuss and listen to important issues residents have regarding their neighborhoods or community.

NEW THIS YEAR!

20th MN Twins vs.

Detroit Tigers game.

The first 50 block parties

tickets to the September

to sign up for Night to Unite get 4 MN Twins

Whether it's your first time planning your block party or continuing a tradition, it's up to you and your neighbors to plan how you would like to celebrate Night to Unite. Your block party can be as elaborate or as simple as you like --kids' games, ice cream socials, potlucks, parades, cook outs and more!

### July 26th - Last day to register your block party!

For more information on how to plan your party, or to register, contact Laura Vaughan at 651-552-4235 or lyaughan@wspmn.gov or visit www.wspmn.gov.

### **WHAT IS 19 YEARS OLD, HAS WORKED MORE THAN 26** YEARS, AND HAS HAD **OVER 150 LEGS?**



It is the West St. Paul Police Reserve and Community Safety Volunteers (CSV) units.

You've probably seen them at City events, patrolling the city's parks, finding your lost puppy, maybe directing traffic at an emergency scene, or answering your call for assistance and you didn't notice anything special about them. The West St. Paul Police Reserves/CSVs are a community service-based, non-paid volunteer law enforcement organization. Since its inception in 1997, they have volunteered over 55,000 hours - that's more than 26 work years! The value of this time is estimated to be more than \$1 Million!

The members represent a wide range of ages and careers, and share a willingness to donate a portion of their personal time to be actively involved in the community and to be trained and ready when assistance is needed for the public's safety. The Reserve Officers assist the patrol officers in the delivery of a wide variety of nonprecarious services. The Community Safety Volunteers assist with crime prevention activities and helping at community events.

This fall, the Reserve Unit is looking to bolster its membership with additional community minded people. Information on the Reserve program can be found at www.wspmn.gov.



### **CALLING ALL FLOWER LOVERS!**

WENTWORTH LIBRARY

July 20th: 11am

The Cherokee Heights Garden Club welcomes all to a free flower show on Wednesday, July 20 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Wentworth Library.

Club members will be creating the floral exhibits. For more than 80 years, the club has been encouraging and advancing the knowledge and love of gardening and assisting in the beautification of the community. Since 1984, the club has planted and maintained the garden at the south end of the High Bridge.

All are invited to come and enjoy the lovely floral exhibits. We also welcome all individuals interested in gardening to attend our monthly meetings.

**Contact Club President** Diane Schroepfer at dmschroepfer@gmail.com

### ONE TOWER, MORE POWER

St. Paul Regional Water Services has been providing the City of West St. Paul with a reliable supply of water for many years now. However, over the last several years, power outages at the pump station have become more frequent, and not just during times of severe weather. These outages have potential to interrupt water service to the customers of West St. Paul. An outage on June 19th, 2012 caused pressure loss to some areas and an emergency notification was issued to the entire City, as required by Minnesota Department of Health. This prompted SPRWS to consider long term solutions to reduce the chances of service interruptions and most importantly further improve reliability.

West St. Paul is currently being served with an existing 500,000 gallon water tower. It has served the City reliably for the last 50 years and is scheduled for a fresh coat of paint in 2018. Construction of a second water tower to increase storage capacity was initially presented as a solution to the risks posed by service interruptions. However, since receiving public feedback and having discussions with City representatives, other municipalities, and consulting firms, SPRWS began to consider other approaches to deal directly with this issue.

SPRWS is now planning to install a backup generator and updated electrical equipment in the pump station in lieu of a new a power outag occurs, the new equipment will automatically start the generator, resulting in almost no



### PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, August 9th

### **GENERAL ELECTION**

Tuesday, November 8th

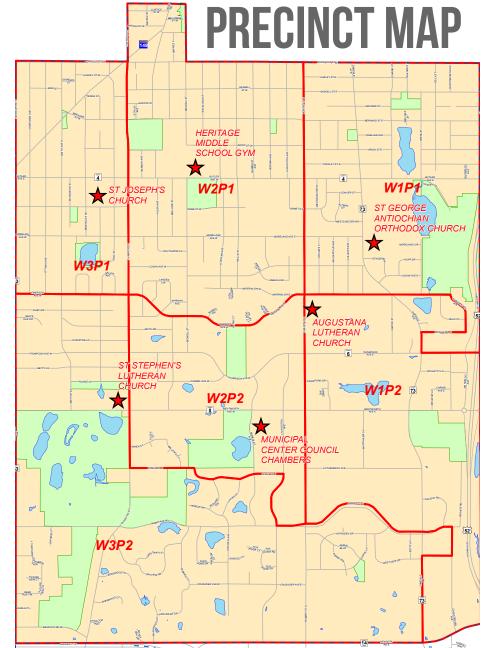
If you are interested in serving as an election judge, and are eligible to assist us, please complete an application on our website. You can also access additional election information at www.wspmn.gov

### WHERE DO YOU VOTE?

W 1P 1 - ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH - 1250 OAKDALE AVE. W 1P2 - AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1400 SOUTH ROBERT ST.

W2P1 - HERITAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL - 121 W. BUTLER AVE. W2P2 - WSP CITY HALL - 1616 HUMBOLDT AVE.

W3P1 - ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH - 1154 SEMINOLE AVE. W3P2 - ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1575 CHARLTON ST. DON'T KNOW YOUR WARD OR PRECINCT?



### ABSENTEE VOTING

Any eligible voter can vote early by using an absentee ballot, instead of voting in person at the polling place on Election Day. Absentee ballots are available 46 days before each regularly scheduled Election. Absentee voting will **NOT** be held at the West St. Paul Municipal Center on Humboldt Ave. There will be no applications or absentee ballots available at the West St. Paul Municipal Center. Complete an application any of the following ways:

#### ONLINE

You may apply online for an absentee ballot through the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office at www.mnvotes.org.

#### N PERSON

You may apply at the Dakota County Administration Center in Hastings as well as the

North Service Center

1 Mendota Rd W. West St. Paul MN 55118

#### RY MAII

After you complete the application you may return your absentee ballot to:

Dakota County Elections

1590 Highway 55. Hastings, MN 55033

### BY FAX

Dakota County Election Administration 651-438-4391

Call the County Election Hotline with Absentee Voting questions at 651-438-4274



### SAFE MEDICATION DISPOSAL

PRESCRIPTION. OVER THE COUNTER & PET MEDS

1616 HUMBOLDT AVE - LOCATED IN THE FRONT ENTRANCE.

#### **ACCEPTED**

- Pills and Capsules
- Liquids
- Creams and gels
- Powders
- Sprays
- Inhalers
- IV Bags
- Patches

### NOT ACCEPTED

- Needles
- Lancets
- Lancets
- Syringes
- Thermometers

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### A BIG THANK YOU TO THE NEW SPONSORS OF



The LOOP transportation service is possible only by donations and grants. We are currently in our second year of operation. Those who donated for our second year (so far) include: Signal Hills Shopping Center, South Robert Street Business Association, Jerry's Foods (CUB), City of West St. Paul, Mendota Heights/WSP Rotary, Xcel Energy, Bisanz Brother's, Tapemark, SRF Consulting, Pace's Service Center

### **WE WELCOME DONATIONS** FROM OTHERS!

The LOOP provides transportation between several residential complexes serving older adults and businesses along Robert Street. Residents who do not live in one of the housing complexes can board at one of the business stops. A wheel-chair accessible DARTS bus with a friendly driver will stop at each of the pre-designated stops every 30 minutes between 10am and 3pm on the first four Wednesday's of each month through December, 2016. If funding is available, service could continue beyond 2016.

Obtain a schedule by stopping by City Hall, at www.wspmn.gov, or call 651-552-4100 to request a copy through mail.



# WEST ST. PAUL



**Signal Hills Shopping Center** 











# City of West St. Paul INFLOW & INFILTRATION New Updates from the City Council

The Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Compliance Program is being required by the Metropolitan Council as a result of excessive clear water entering the sanitary sewer system. West St. Paul received a surcharge of \$2.7 million in 2015 from the During the course of the last year, the more help and guidance as residents go Met Council, based on the excess sanitary flow experienced during a significant June, 2014 rainstorm. The surcharge can be avoided by developing a program to eliminate the I/I problem.

The City recognizes the inconvenience and unexpected burden this program places on

to address this issue will only result in

City Council learned of numerous issues, including sanitary sewer access difficulties, root obstructions preventing sewer service line inspections, questions relating to obtaining bids to repair any areas of noncompliance, and difficulties in financing the needed repairs.

residents and businesses. However, failure As a result, the City Council has modified the I/I program to be less time sensitive significant and ongoing surcharges into the and hopefully less financially onerous to residents and the community. In addition, the City Council is committed to providing through the necessary process.

> The new changes will be considered by the City Council at its regular 6:30pm meeting on Monday, June 13, 2016. For homesteaded residential properties, the changes will become effective on January 1st, 2017.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### I'm planning on selling my home, what do I need to do?

Call 651-552-4100 to schedule a free I/I inspection. Homesteaded residential properties will need an I/I inspection prior to the sale of the property after 1/1/17. Any areas of non-compliance will need to be corrected within 12 months from the sale of the property. You may choose to work with your buyer to decide who will correct the non-compliance.

#### I'm not planning on selling, do I have to wait?

No. In fact we encourage owners to be proactive! Call 651-552-4100 to get your free I/I inspection scheduled.

If your street is being reconstructed as part of the City's annual street improvements, the City will arrange with you to have your sanitary sewer service line inspected. You will be encouraged, but not required, to address areas of non-compliance during street work.

#### What is my responsibility and what does the City handle?

The I/I program will be administered and managed by the City, without the use of a consultant. In addition to being a less expensive approach, it will help ensure that issues and questions are addressed promptly and correctly. The inspections are free although property owners will be expected to assume any financial costs associated with providing an acceptable access point to the sanitary sewer service line and any service line clean-out (root removal) required for the inspection.

Once any areas of I/I non-compliance are identified, the property owner will be responsible for hiring a qualified company to correct the situation. Property owners are encouraged to get several bids for getting the work done.

#### Is there any financial help available for correcting I/I issues?

The City will reimburse 15% of the costs for I/I repairs up to \$5,000. At your request, the City is also willing to special assess any remaining amount onto your property so that you can pay the costs off over 10 years at a low interest rate with your property taxes. For qualifying seniors, the I/I special assessment may be deferred until the sale of your property.

### Is there anything else I should know?

In order to preserve the surface quality of the city streets, no excavation will be allowed to occur in the road right of way, except for emergency or unique situations. Any service line repairs will need to be accomplished from outside of the right of way.

The City will repair any inflow issues where the privately owned service line meets the public sewer main in the street. This repair will occur at the time the street is reconstructed, unless an emergency repair is needed.

If you've already become compliant as part of the I/I program before these changes were made, your compliance letter will be valid for 10 years. If you sell your property within those 10 years, you will not need to be reinspected.

For more information and a step-by-step guide to becoming compliant, go to www.wspmn.gov/ii

City of West St. Paul 1616 Humboldt Ave West St. Paul, MN 55118



### **WEST ST. PAUL**



**JULY 23RD 4-8 PM** 

JOIN WEST ST. PAUL ARTISTS AS THEY DISPLAY THEIR WORK & PERFORM ON SMITH AVENUE!

If you are interested in displaying your art or have questions about the event contact:

Danette Malerich at malericharts1@gmail.com

ARTIST DISPLAYS 4-7 PM TRICIA & THE TOONIES 5PM MUSIC FROM 6-8PM KIDS COLOR DASH - 7 PM

